

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 ANKARA 08699 251548Z

12
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 OPR-02 SY-05 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /073 W
----- 021617

R 251448Z NOV 75
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1454
INFO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 8699

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ASEC, TU
SUBJ: STUDENT DISTURBANCES

REF: A. ISTANBUL 3862, B. IZMIR 304, C. IZMIR 299,
D. ANKARA 8407, E. ANKARA 8278, F. ANKARA 8313

1. STUDENT VIOLENCE HAS CONTINUED AT A LEVEL SUBSTANTIALLY GREATER THAN AT THIS TIME LAST YEAR. NO PART OF THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN IMMUNE, AS BOYCOTTS AND STUDENT DISORDERS OCCURRED DURING THE PAST WEEK IN ERZURUM, TRABZON, CORUM, AND ESKISEHIR AS WELL AS THE MAJOR METROPOLITAN AREAS OF ISTANBUL, ANKARA, IZMIR AND ADANA. A TREND TOWARD INCREASED INVOLVEMENT OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS HAS RECENTLY BECOME EVIDENT, WITH THE WIDESPREAD BOYCOTT OF GAZINATEP'S SECONDARY SCHOOLS AS AN EXAMPLE. THE DISTURBANCES CONTINUE TO BE A POLITICAL ISSUE.

2. IN ANKARA, CLASHES BETWEEN EXTREME RIGHTIST AND LEFTIST STUDENTS AT HACETTEPE UNIVERSITY RESULTED IN THE SCHOOL'S BEING CLOSED BRIEFLY. THE BOYCOTT AT GAZI EDUCATION INSTITUTE CONTINUED. TENSION HAS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ANKARA 08699 251548Z

REPORTEDLY AGAIN INCREASED AT MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY WHERE CLASSES HAD BEEN PROCEEDING NORMALLY

FOLLOWING THE WITHDRAWAL OF JANDARMA FROM CAMPUS AT STUDENT DEMAND; HOWEVER, STUDENT ELECTIONS WERE HELD NOVEMBER 24 WITHOUT INCIDENT. WHILE CLASSES CONTINUED AT ANKARA UNIVERSITY, BOTH TEACHERS AND STUDENTS HAVE TOLD EMBOFFS THAT VIOLENCE IS AN EVER PRESENT THREAT.

3. MARCHES REMAINED A FAVORED FORM OF PROTEST WITH RIGHTIST SUTDENTS MARCHING FROM IZMIR TO ANKARA (REF B) (THIS GROUP SHOULD BE NEAR USAK AT THIS TIME) AND LEFTISTS BEING FRUSTRATED IN AN ATTEMPT TO MARCH FROM YALOVA TO ISTANBUL (REFS A AND D).

4. IN APPARENT RESPONSE TO THE DISORDERS, THE NATIOLNALIST FRONT GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED A POLICE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM AND HAS PROPOSED LEGISLATION RENEWING THE MANDATE OF THE STATE SECURITY COURTS AND TOUGHENING PRESENT LAWS ON DEMONSTRATIONS AND PROTEST MARCHES. THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT HAD EARLIER STRUCK DOWN AS UNCONSTITUTIONAL MUCH OF THE LEGISLATION IN THESE AREAS ENACTED DURING THE POST-MARCH 1971 PERIOD OF "ABOVE PARTIES GOVERNMENT." IN ANOTHER GOT SHOW OF AUTHORITY POLICE RAIDED UNIVERSITIES, STUDENT HOSTELS AND STUDENT GROUP HEADQUARTERS IN BOTH ANKARA AND ISTANBUL THE EVENING OF NOVEBER 23. THREE HUNDRED PERSONS WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY DURING THE RAIDS.

5. NOVEMBER 18 REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) CHAIRMAN BULENT ECEVIT ACCUSED PRIMIN DEMIREL OF INDIFFERENCE TO RECENT EVENTS IN TURKEY' SCHOOLS. IN A STATEMENT GIVEN NOVEMBER 20, ECEVIT CLAIMED THAT SINCE THE FORMATION OF THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT SIX TEACHERS HAD BEEN KILLED AND NUMEROUS TEACHERS ATTACKED IN THE SCHOOLS. ECEVIT ACCUSED THE GOVERNMENT OF USING ASSIGNMENTS AS PUNISHMENTS FOR TEACHERS OF OPPOSING POLITICAL VIEWS. ECEVIT SAID THAT EVEN STUDENTS IN THE HIGH SCHOOLS AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS WERE SUBJECTED TO POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED HARASSMENT. THE RPP CHAIRMAN CALLED UPON STUDENTS' FAMILIES AND PARENTS-TEACHERS ASSOCIATIONS TO SUPPORT TURKEY'S TEACHERS IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ANKARA 08699 251548Z

EDUCATIONAL CRISIS.

6. IN AN INTERROGATORY MOTION IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, EXTREMEN LEFTIST RPP DEPUTY FROM IZMIR, SULEYMAN GENC BLAMED THE GOVERNMENT FOR DOMESTIC UNREST, WHICH SINCE THE GOVERNMENT ASSUMED POWER, HAS RESULTED IN, ACCORDING TO GENC, 21 DEATHS OF YOUNG PEOPLE, 43 ARMED ATTACHKS, 72 BOMBINGS, THE INJURY OF 715 PEOPLE, AND THE ARREST OF 242 "PROGRESSIVE, REFORMIST YOUTHS." ON OTHER HAND, HURRIYET, IN A

HEADLINE STORY NOVEMBER 23, PROVIDED THE NAMES OF 12 STUDENTS WHO HAVE DIED VIOLENTLY DURING 1975 ACTIVISTS ON THE LEFT SAY THIS LIST IS INCOMPLETE CLAIMING SECURITY FORCES DISCOURAGE PUBLICITY IN ORDER TO AVOID PROVOKING FURTHER INCIDENTS AND TO MINIMIZE THE LEVEL OF VIOLENCE.

7. HOWEVER, AS NOTED ABOVE, STUDENT VIOLENCE HAS BECOME A MAJOR POLITICAL ISSUE.

A. PARTY LEADERS HAVE SO ENGAGED IN MUTUAL BLAME LAYING THAT OEVNE THOUGH SPOKESMEN FROM VIRTUALLY EVERY POLITICAL PARTY, INCLUDING THE MARXIST TURKISH LABOR PARTY AS WELL AS THE RIGHTIST NATIONAL ACTION PARTY, HAVE URGED STUDENTS TO AVOID ARMED CONFLICT, THEY HAVE HAD LITTLE APPARENT IMPACT.

B. SIMILARLY, PRESS COMMENTATORS SEEKING REASONS FOR THE AGITATION HAVE GENERALLY REFLECTED IDEOLOGICAL PARTISANSHIP: LEFTIST CUMHURIYET ASSERTED THAT THE STATE SECURITY FORCES CUSTOMARILY FAVOR THE RIGHTISTS IN STUDENT DISORDERS. RIGHTIST ORTA DOGU ACCUSED THE LEFT OF CONDUCTING COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA EVEN IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND CALLED FOR SUPPORT OF THE MINNATIONALEUCATION WHILE CRITICIZING THE MININTERIOR FOR NOT TAKING ACTION TO HALT VIOLENCE. CONSERVATIVE TERCUMAN URGED GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION TO UNITE TO SOLVE THE STUDENT PROBLEM.

C. CHIEF OF TURKISH GENERAL STAFF SANCAR HAS COMMENTED SEVERAL TIMES, MOST RECENTLY NOVEMBER 9 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 ANKARA 08699 251548Z

(REF F) THAT MILITARY WILL NOT TOLERATE CONTINUING VIOLENCE.

8. COMMENT: THE LEVEL OF STUDENT VIOLENCE IS PROBABLY NOT AT THIS TIME SUFFICIENTLY HIGH TO THREATEN, BY ITSELF, THE CONTINUATION OF THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT. BUT BECAUSE OF THE CHRONIC STRIFE WITHIN THE COALATION, THE CONTINUING PARLIAMENTARY PARALYSIS, AND THE BITTER INTER-PARTY CONFLICT WHICH TURNS EVERY ISSUE INTO A PARTISAN ONE, CONTINUING STUDENT VIOLENCE MAY BECOME A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR FOR THE STABILITY OF THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT. AT THE VERY LEAST, IT AGGRAVATES THE TRENDS TOWARD POLITICAL POLARIZATION IN TURKEY WHICH ARE MAKING IT INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FOR ITS DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM TO FUNCTION.
MACOMBER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL DISORDERS, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: woolflhd
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ANKARA08699
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750411-0431
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751113/aaaaalcn.tel
Line Count: 167
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ISTANBUL 3862, 75 IZMIR 304, 75 IZMIR 299
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: woolflhd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2003 by woolflhd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: STUDENT DISTURBANCES
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ASEC, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006